

***Klamath National Forest  
Fiscal Year 2002  
Monitoring and Evaluation Report***

**October 3, 2003**

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## *Introduction*

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2002 Monitoring and Evaluation Report documents the evaluation of monitoring information related to the Klamath National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (Forest Plan) from October 1, 2001 through September 30, 2002. Data is compared to data from past years, when appropriate. Monitoring results, rather than the presentation of monitoring data, are emphasized. Evaluations were based on professional judgment when monitoring data was incomplete or lacking.

## *Monitoring Activities and Evaluation*

The following section is organized by Program Areas as they appear in the Forest Plan. Each section identifies program goals, summarizes the monitoring actions related to this program area, and evaluates how well program goals are being met and how closely management standards and guidelines (S&Gs) have been followed. Program Emphasis goals can be found on pages 4-5 through 4-10 of the Forest Plan. Forestwide goals can be found on pages 4-4 through 4-5 of the Forest Plan. Monitoring elements from the Forest Plan Monitoring Plan can be found in Table 5-1 of the Forest Plan on pages 5-11 through 5-14.

Quantitative program accomplishments are not included in this list as they are displayed in other reports such as the Forest's Management Attainments Report.

## **Physical Environment**

### ***Physical Environment***

**Goals:** The goals are to achieve water quality objectives through the use of Best Management Practices (BMPs), mitigate erosional effects, and treat toxic substance hazards.

**Monitoring:** BMP monitoring follows Regional evaluation guidelines and procedures. Wildfire burned areas are evaluated for unacceptable erosion levels using the Burned Area Evaluation Review process. Monitoring of hazardous materials (naturally occurring asbestos, radon, abandoned mines and landfills, etc.) is done by maintaining an inventory of known and new sites and investigating and cleaning up hazardous wastes/substances present at each site. Hazardous abandoned mine sites are signed. Safety problems and other reclamation problems are prioritized and projects initiated and completed as funding allows.

**Results:** FY 2002 represents the eleventh year of BMP monitoring on the Forest. A total of 53 sites in 6 categories that include timber, roads, recreation, grazing, rock pits, and fuel reduction activities were monitored. Ninety-two percent of the BMP sites met the criteria for implementation and 96 percent met or exceeded the evaluation criteria for effectiveness. This represents an increase compared to FY 2001 results. The Stanza and Forks Fires implemented erosion control measures as described in their Burned Area Emergency Rehabilitation reports.

### ***Geology***

**Goals:** The goal for geology is to promote slope stability. The goal for cave management is to be consistent with legal direction. For the purposes of Forest monitoring, more specific goals have been developed and/or applied as listed here: **(1) Life and Property-** Protect human life and property from geologic hazards (landslides, seismic and volcanic events, asbestos dust, radon gas). **(2) Aquatic Conservation Strategy (ACS) Objectives-** "Maintain and restore the sediment regime with which aquatic ecosystems evolved. Elements of the sediment regime include the

timing, volume, rate and character of sediment input, storage, and transport". Emphasis is placed on minimizing management-related landslides and maintaining natural slope stability. **(3) Unique Geologic Areas-** Protect and maintain unique geologic resources (caves, Special Interest and Research Natural Areas). **(4) Restoration-** Restore areas damaged by previous human activity (such as abandoned mines, or sediment-producing roads). **(5) Geologic Resources-** Ensure that geologic resources (rock aggregate and earth materials, locatable minerals, groundwater) are developed in a cost-efficient and environmentally sound manner.

**Monitoring:** **(1)** Systematic monitoring of landslides, through field visits and air photo inventories, is conducted only after landslide episodes (primarily after precipitation events). Similarly, the effects of seismic/volcanic activity are monitored only after the occurrence of such events. In the absence of such events, monitoring is limited to collecting information by field personnel. Asbestos is monitored by sampling of proposed aggregate or rip rap sources for asbestos content, and sampling of air in the vicinity of earth disturbing activities in asbestos-bearing earth materials. **(2)** ACS objectives related to sediment and geologic S&Gs directed at landslide mitigation are reviewed on individual projects. **(3)** The condition of cave resources over the past 5 years has been monitored primarily by the Klamath Mountains Conservation Task Force and the Shasta Area Grotto; the Forest Service has monitored only a few caves. Cave features and formations are visually monitored for damage, and bat usage is monitored in selected caves. As opportunities arise, Forest personnel monitor unique geologic areas, such as Special Interest Areas (SIAs), on site. **(4)** Restoration monitoring includes a determination of the amount (miles or number of sites) and the effectiveness of road decommissioning and road restoration work including landslide stabilization, and reclamation of abandoned mines. **(5)** Earth Materials developments and groundwater withdrawal sites were not monitored in 2002.

**Results:** **(1)** There were no large landslide-producing storms, seismic episodes, or volcanic episodes in 2002, and only a few instances of landslide damage to roads were reported by field personnel relative to these hazards. An inventory of asbestos-bearing rock sources was initiated in 2001 and work on the inventory continued in 2002. One rock pit near Carter Meadow Summit was sampled and tested for asbestos in 2002. Riprap was taken from some asbestos-bearing rock sources. Roads with asbestos-bearing rock on the running surface continue to be used by vehicles. Signs were installed at abandoned mines to warn the public of potential hazards.

**(2)** No significant management-related landslides were reported by District or Supervisor's Office personnel in 2002, indicating that ACS sediment regime objectives were most likely met. Geologists routinely work on soil and earth disturbing projects and delineate unstable lands in the field.

**(3)** Cave use has been increasing over the past 5 years. No significant damage from vandalism has been identified in the monitored caves except for Barnum Cave, where a significant amount of new spray-paint graffiti was discovered. The Barnum Cave increase in bat usage that followed the gate installation in 2000 to seasonally exclude humans was found by the Shasta Area Grotto to increase again in 2002. A bat gate was installed in Sand Cave in the fall of 2001, and monitoring by Shasta Area Grotto showed that bat use increased slightly in 2002. Increases in bat use at Sand and Barnum caves is encouraging, but probably not statistically significant, since there are few years of monitoring and many factors influence bat use. Monitoring of Fourmile Hill Tree Molds Geologic SIA revealed that it was in good condition. A new geothermal power development drilling pad was constructed adjacent to Pumice Craters Geologic SIA, but no direct effects of this action were observed on the features of the SIA.

**(4)** In FY 2002, the Forest took credit for decommissioning 10.43 miles of system roads, and 16.47 miles of non-system roads for a total of 26.90 miles. Salmon River District is credited for decommissioning 4.30 miles of system roads and 9.31 miles of non-system roads. Goosenest District is credited for decommissioning 6.13 miles of system roads and 7.16 miles of non-system roads. These figures relate to the year the project was funded and some of the work will be completed in FY 2003. Approximately 9 miles of the decommissioned roads were monitored in FY 2002; no significant landslide problems were observed. **Implementation** success was good. Due

to the lack of landslide-producing storms in 2002, the **effectiveness** of road decommissioning and restoration work was not significantly tested, so could not be assessed.

(5) Earth material developments and groundwater withdrawal sites were not monitored in 2002.

## **Soils**

**Goals:** The goals are to maintain soil productivity and reduce management-related soil erosion.

**Monitoring:** The attributes monitored are soil cover for erosion protection, fine organic matter for nutrient cycling, coarse woody debris for biological activity, and soil compaction for root growth. Standardized sampling methodologies developed on the Forest are used to collect the data.

**Results:** Achievement of Forest Plan recommended soil cover guidelines in managed stands ranged from 74 to 86%, averaging 80% for total cover. Monitoring results show that the requirement for fine organic matter continues to be fully met at 100% for fall broadcast burn/underburn prescribed fire units. Sampling of hand piling units where piles are burned found retention of 86% total soil cover. Sampling the mastication of brush-dominated plantations found a retention of 96% total soil cover.

## **Water Quality**

**Goals:** The goals are to provide adequate instream flows, and to maintain water table levels in wet meadows.

**Monitoring:** The BMP program and the ACS are the primary mechanisms for ensuring the maintenance of water quality. BMPs are monitored as described under **Physical Environment**. ACS monitoring is described in the **Geology** and **Aquatic Conservation Strategy** sections. The water quality-monitoring element is tied to the **Physical Environment** goal of achieving water quality objectives.

There are no monitoring elements in the Forest Plan Monitoring Plan for providing adequate instream flows and maintaining water table levels in wet meadows. The Forest manages flows for domestic use, but does not control flows on rivers controlled by dams such as the Klamath River or flows on the Scott River within Scott Valley. Stream flows on the Klamath and Scott Rivers are monitored by other agencies.

**Results:** Refer to the **Physical Environment** section for a discussion of water quality results.

## **Air Quality**

**Goals:** The goals are to comply with legal requirements, and to manage prescribed fire to avoid prolonged air quality impacts to local communities. Legal requirements include the Federal Clean Air Act and the State Air Quality and Smoke Management Standards and Regulations

**Monitoring:** Annual visibility data are collected via a camera mounted at the Lake Mountain lookout to assess effects on the Marble Mountain Wilderness Class 1 Airshed. Photographs were taken from July to October from 1998 to 2002. Starting in FY 2002, the effects of acid rain on lakes and the effects on lichen were also monitored. Other monitoring includes smoke plume monitoring during prescribed fire projects, recording complaints received during prescribed fire projects, and reviewing yearly air quality data from permanent sampling stations in Siskiyou County. Monitoring of compliance with the Asbestos Toxic Control Measure consists of: evaluating the geology of quarry sites in ultramafic rocks, testing for asbestos, discontinuing use of any aggregate with detectable asbestos content, and incorporating dust abatement measures during road construction, maintenance and quarry operations in ultramafic rocks.

**Results:** Photograph records of visibility monitoring have been compiled and organized for the last five years, which will allow trends to be identified. Consistent with the 2000 Smoke Management Regulations in California, Smoke Management Plans are submitted to the Siskiyou County Air Pollution Control District in order to obtain a permit to burn for Forest projects. This

process was first used in the fall of 2000, and post burn evaluations indicate that there were no smoke impacts to sensitive areas.

During the period from October 4 through 17, 2002, the Siskiyou County Air Pollution District conducted particulate monitoring (PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub>) in Tennant, CA, approximately 1.2 miles east of a prescribed burn (Fire Surrogate Project) on the Goosenest Ranger District. The monitoring data showed that air quality was not impacted by the burning; in fact, the levels of particulates were slightly reduced from ambient levels recorded prior to the burning, because of weather factors. The monitoring was conducted to address community concerns with smoke from past prescribed burning projects.

Air quality data compiled by the California Air Resources Board indicates that air quality with respect to particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>) has improved from 1996 to 2002. Forest management activities, such as prescribed burns, have not exceeded state or federal air quality standards. Wildfires in 2002 created numerous days of poor air quality, and California standards were exceeded a couple of times due to the Biscuit Complex Fire, in southwest Oregon. The two Asbestos Toxic Control Measures adopted in November, 2001 and November, 2002 are too new to be fully evaluated. The on-going Forest rock resource inventory will provide information on what existing rock pits contain asbestos minerals. The Forest is developing a process to comply with the regulations and obtain permits from the Siskiyou County Air Pollution District for road construction, maintenance, and quarry projects in ultramafic rocks.

## Biological Environment

### *Biological Environment*

**Goals:** The goals are to manage for healthy ecosystems, provide goods and services in an environmentally sound fashion, use new knowledge, develop an integrated inventory, cooperate with other agencies, and promote awareness and appreciation of species.

**Monitoring:** The Northwest Forest Plan (NWFP) initiated a management scheme which, applied over time, should result in healthy ecosystems. Monitoring of management actions is completed annually as part of the Forest Plan Implementation monitoring program conducted in a consistent manner throughout the range of the NWFP. Results of the Forest's involvement in that program are contained in annual NWFP reports.

Monitoring for terrestrial species and ecosystems included a review of annual Program Of Work documents, project proposals and associated funding levels, discussions with wildlife biologists on the Forest, field survey results, and technical reports completed through Forest staff efforts. Analyses such as the Draft California Northern Spotted Owl (NSO) Baseline Analysis, the Forestwide Late-Successional Reserve Assessment, the National Council Air and Stream Industry NSO study, and landbird monitoring provide the best assessments of the status of late successional habitat conditions and species associated with those habitats. In 2002, additional NSO monitoring was conducted in three Late-Successional Reserves through a partnership with the local United States Fish and Wildlife Service office. Goshawks were monitored extensively on the Goosenest Ranger District in 2002 as part of a nationally funded effort. A new Goshawk survey protocol was finalized and a national level training was held in Yreka, California in June, 2002 to teach the new protocol in a field and lecture style format. Monitoring for bald eagles and Swainson's hawks is done on a limited basis. Results from the FY 2000 Strategic Surveys for mollusks are contained within reports by Dr. James Agee and Dunk-Zielinski-Preisler. Strategic Surveys for Fungi were conducted throughout the four northern California National Forests in FY 2002. High mountain lakes on the Forest were surveyed for various frog species, with particular focus on Cascade Frogs, as part of a Pacific Southwest Research Station study.

Monitoring for fisheries and aquatic ecosystems consisted of a review of Forest Plan goals, S&Gs, national program goals, action items established by the 1995 Recreational Fisheries Executive Order, and Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive (TES) listings of anadromous salmonids that occurred since the adoption of the Forest Plan.

Sensitive species are currently tracked through pre-project surveys and/or habitat reviews. Data on new plant populations are entered into the corporate plant layer. Additions and deletions to the sensitive plant list occur at the Province and Regional level using input from Forest Botanists.

Management Indicator Species are evaluated through a review of effects of project level activities on habitat conditions. The Forest relies on monitoring efforts conducted by the State, research groups (private and federal), Universities, and the Landbird monitoring conducted through partnerships with qualified groups to ascertain current habitat conditions and species presence.

Information on stand density control projects, which includes pre-commercial and commercial thinning, within Late-Successional Reserves was compiled.

**Results:** The NWFP is a long-term strategy (100 years) and has not been in effect long enough to validate its success in maintaining healthy ecosystems. At the Forest scale, fuel loadings, mortality, and overstocking have been increasing. Management options for dealing with these issues are limited. Over the last five years the trend has been towards more restrictions on use of active management, both through application of restrictive S&Gs, and through limitations outlined in appeals and litigation.

The Draft NSO Baseline study indicates that most Late-Successional Reserves are functioning for NSOs (those that are not at the edge of the range, or in interspersed land ownership patterns).

The Forest reviewed literature related to Management Indicator Species and formalized the monitoring strategy for project level Management Indicator Species and associated habitat, as identified in the Forest Plan on pages 4-30 through 4-32 (web version of Forest Plan). The formalized system accounts for habitat changes for Management Indicator Species at the project level in a manner that can be evaluated at the larger scale during the Forest Plan revision process.

The Forest has not developed an integrated inventory system. The implementation of the FLORA and FAUNA corporate databases may facilitate integration.

Coordination with other agencies has been increasing over the last 5 years, and cooperation (in consultation and project development and implementation) is generally good.

Promoting public awareness of species is ongoing, with Forest personnel involved in a variety of environmental education projects throughout the County, the annual Wildflower Show, Siskiyou Golden Fair, noxious weed awareness, etc. The Forest and local Fish and Wildlife Service sponsored a booth at the 2002 Siskiyou County Fair called The Gift of Trees. The booth highlighted the diversity of conifers on the Forest, and the links between animals and fish and various successional phases of coniferous Forests.

An inventory of noxious weed populations was completed in FY 2002.

Planning for several projects designed to reduce fuel build-ups in Late-Successional Reserves was initiated using funding from the National Fire Plan and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

## ***Biological Diversity***

**Goals:** The goals are to manage for healthy, diverse ecosystems and species habitat. In the past this has led to an emphasis on the Forest to conduct activities that are consistent with achieving recovery of TES aquatic species. It should be noted that recently, project-level development and maintenance of TES species habitat has been de-emphasized in deference to determining the status of and risks to Survey and Manage species.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring activities are the same as for the **Biological Environment**. The monitoring element for sensitive plants is to assure maintenance of populations. For late-successional and old growth species, monitoring elements are to track vegetative changes and ensure openings are consistent with requirements.

**Results:** See discussion under **Biological Environment**. Because Forest management direction favors TES terrestrial species, habitat for TES is tending to improve through the use of S&Gs except in some areas in the matrix. The Draft NSO Baseline study indicates that most of the Late Successional Reserves on the Forest are functioning adequately for NSOs. NSO surveys were conducted in three Late Successional Reserves in FY 2002, providing useful information to help determine levels of functionality. A second year of surveying is planned for 2003.

The implementation of the Survey and Manage management recommendations in the short term seems to have created a single species management approach rather than a broader ecosystem management approach for terrestrial species. This shift was not predicted or expected at the level currently occurring. Vegetative changes have not been tracked at the Forest scale. Few openings have been created through management activities.

Pre-project surveys for sensitive species are adequate and conducted within designated time frames. The database is updated on a yearly basis. Additions and deletions to the sensitive plant species lists are made as needed. Known sites are protected.

### ***Aquatic Conservation Strategy***

**Goals:** The goals are to maintain and restore all components of the aquatic ecosystem.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring consisted of a review of S&Gs, the BMP Evaluation Program, and project level NEPA. Refer also to the **Physical Environment** and **Geology** Sections.

**Results:** While past BMP monitoring indicated that project-level planning often failed to identify the specific BMPs applicable to the proposed activity and the specific project level actions or mitigation necessary to meet BMP implementation, substantial improvement was noted by the staff of the North Coast Water Quality Control Board during project reviews in 2002. The Forest continues to maintain an excellent record of compliance with achieving on-the-ground monitoring targets for BMPs.

Evaluation of selected road decommissioning projects identified a need for common procedures for evaluating resource costs and benefits as well as a common definition of required outcomes defining decommissioning (Appendix A of FS Publication FS-643). Observations of field operations by Forest Service or Purchasers in “putting temporary roads to bed” found that the standards identified in the Forest Road Decommissioning Policy are not being met (i.e. retention of features regarding maintenance). Project reviews in 2002 found that the improvement in applying Forest Road Decommissioning Policy guidelines observed in 2001 had continued. Evaluations indicate that additional attention to addressing obliteration of the initial road segment is warranted in order to discourage further road use. Placement of rolling grades can be improved by coordinating installation with existing swales and draws versus fixed distant placement. “Daylighting” road through cuts whenever practicable in order to minimize concentrating water is also a practice that needs to be consistently applied. On-site project review indicates additional environmental and infrastructure risk reduction can be achieved during stormproofing activities, especially during road crossing reconstruction. These opportunities typically involve further reduction in fill volume through minimizing the vertical and horizontal profile of the crossing, incorporation of rolling dips, and/or replacement of fill with large coarse rock.

A review of road construction and decommissioning in key watersheds showed a net decrease in road mileage. Monitoring has indicated improved reporting of road construction and decommissioning on the Forest.

A review of Cumulative Watershed Effects (CWE) analyses in watershed analysis and in projects found that there are inconsistencies between documents. The CWE process has been evolving over the last five years and consistency in model application of CWE results through environmental analysis is improving. Lack of consistency in disclosing and applying CWE assessment assumptions remains a pitfall to achieving repeatable interpretations. The Forest



initiated the development of Forest standards for assessing direct, indirect, and cumulative watershed effects for addressing this issue. Validation of cause/effect relationships and decision thresholds used in environmental analysis of effects on beneficial uses of water has not been completed.

## **Wildlife**

**Goals:** The goals are to coordinate habitat improvement with the California Department of Fish and Game and to maintain unique wildlife habitats.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring activities are the same as for the **Biological Environment**.

**Results:** Limited monitoring of peregrine falcons and bald eagles indicates improvement in achieving 1990 RPA goals. Peregrine falcons, which have a Resource Planning Act goal of 14, average 13 pairs. Bald eagles with a Resource Planning Act goal of 5, average 10 pairs. Over the last five years, some suitable habitat for NSO has been rendered unsuitable by timber harvest and wildfires, without equal regrowth in the short period. Ongoing studies of populations of NSO, marbled murrelet, frogs, fungi, various landbirds, goshawk, and Swainson's hawk are in progress, but monitoring results are not yet conclusive.

Coordination with the State has declined over recent years; the focus has shifted to coordination with other Federal agencies, primarily the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Fisheries (previously National Marine Fisheries Service). Coordination with the State continues on elk habitat and meadow enhancement through Challenge Cost Share agreements and the Knutsen-Vandenberg program, but at a reduced level. The purchase of Orr Lake and the Butte Valley wetland development are recognizable wildlife habitat improvement achievements that were successful due to partnerships with private, State, and other federal entities. The program's attention to big game and big game habitat enhancement increased over the last few years. Funding was received from Rocky Mountain Elk Foundations for three projects that have habitat improvement objectives integrated with fuels reduction objectives. Two projects were on the Scott River District and one project was on Happy Camp.

The Forest did a review of monitoring efforts of Management Indicator Species in FY 2002. Almost all species have some inventory and/or monitoring data available. It appears that some Management Indicator Species are not easily monitored and there isn't a clear link between some species' presence or abundance and changes in habitat conditions.

## **Fisheries**

**Goals:** The goals are to coordinate management and increase public awareness and appreciation of aquatic resources.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring consisted of a review of Forest Plan goals, S&Gs, national program goals, action items established by the 1995 Recreational Fisheries Executive Order, and numbers/types of public awareness activities.

**Results:** The Forest participates in cooperative agreements or activities with a variety of agencies and groups, including the Karuk and Yurok tribes, Klamath Basin Fisheries Task Force, California Department of Fish and Game, the Scott River Coordinated Resource Management Partnership, the Salmon River Restoration Council, Humboldt State University, Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration - Fisheries.

The Forest has been responsive to some of the Recreational Fisheries Executive Order action items. These targets are emphasized in annual budget direction and additional resources directed towards completion of planned actions in 2002 and 2003. There are no goals or S&Gs for Recreational Fisheries Executive Order activities in the Forest Plan.

Review of road crossings associated with fish bearing streams indicates few road barriers for anadromous fish exist, although several road barriers on resident streams were observed. Because some of the barriers were noted at recently (< 2 year old) reconstructed road crossings, additional interdisciplinary evaluation of project designs for fish passage is warranted. Batched environmental analysis of identified high priority fish passage sites has been initiated in order to accelerate implementation of on-the-ground corrective actions in 2003.

Public understanding of fisheries issues has increased over the last seven years. This is partially due to Forest participation in numerous activities designed to increase public awareness of fisheries values, including the Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee, the Salmon River and mid-Klamath River annual fish counts, and support of National Fishing Week activities. In addition, the Forest provides environmental education at the high school level, where technology transfer occurs for fisheries-related issues.

## Resource Management Programs

### *Resource Management Programs*

**Goals:** The goals are to integrate resource needs through analysis and planning, to cooperate between resource programs to reduce costs and improve efficiency, and to develop consistent approaches for determining conditions and projecting effects.

**Monitoring:** The assessment of goal achievement was based on a review of large-scale analyses completed and a review of selected project documents.

**Results:** The Klamath National Forest Wildland Fire Management Strategy, completed in FY 2002, will allow the Forest to use wildland fire to achieve resource goals as identified in the Forest Plan. The Forestwide Road Analysis Process, also completed in FY 2002, provides information on the primary road system for the Forest that will help prioritize roads for construction, improvement, and closure. The Forestwide Late Successional Reserve Assessment, completed in FY 1999, provides a framework for identifying future treatments in Late Successional Reserves. About 83% of the Forest is covered by completed ecosystem analyses using the watershed analysis process, including an Adaptive Management Area Ecosystem Analysis. All key watersheds are covered except for Wooley Creek, which is in the wilderness and not considered a high priority because of the limited management actions that could take place there.

The Forest uses the opportunities identified in these large-scale assessments to develop and prioritize future projects. Documentation of these links continues to improve, especially in the larger and more controversial projects.

The Forest shows improvement in coordinating multiple resources projects in the same geographical area to achieve desired conditions and minimize costs.

### *Visual Resource Management*

**Goals:** The goals listed in the Forest Plan are to conserve natural scenic character, meet Visual Quality Objectives, emphasize views from key viewing areas, conserve especially attractive landscapes, and rehabilitate areas not currently meeting standards.

**Monitoring:** The assessment of goal achievement for the Scenery Conservation Program was based on professional judgment of scenery specialists, public comments, and information from Regional and Forest Scenery Managers.

#### **Results:**

**Valued Landscape Character** is the Forest's unique visual image and aesthetic identity that people value. This Character has been enhanced in relatively small areas of the Forest, largely through vegetative thinning projects that enhance and sustain the Forest's native appearance. Many more acres are in need of similar work to perpetuate the scenery attributes people value.

Widespread selective thinning and group selection activities for large areas of the Forest, when coupled with fuel reduction activities, would decrease the risk for natural disturbances of large scale and high intensity, which has the potential to diminish the socially valued scenic character. These activities also increase the prominence and presence of positive scenery attributes such as large trees, large tree canopy character, spatial variety, views into the forest canopy, forest floor vegetation, bedrock features, and wildlife.

**Scenic Integrity** is the degree of natural appearance in the Forest. Adverse effects to integrity are less frequent and less prominent in the last several years as the intensity of vegetative treatment has decreased. Although some adverse integrity impacts still occurred, project effects were mitigated to achieve Forest Plan integrity objectives (Visual Quality Objectives). Some existing scenic integrity effects will persist for many years.

The Forest's Scenery conservation program is typically focused on the more complex and sensitive projects. Scenic quality often is not optimized due to trade-offs with other resource needs. Progress in achieving scenery goals in Forest social and recreation settings is slow due to a low level of funding. The Forest Landscape Architect is currently assisting the Pacific Southwest Region in formalizing direction on how to implement the Scenery Management System, which is a revision of the 1970 Visual Management System. Some Scenery Management System principles have been applied on the Forest for over five years. More application of Scenery Management System principles to projects is expected in FY 2003, due to the Region's refinement of these principles, particularly the identification and perpetuation of socially valued landscape character.

## **Recreation Management**

**Goals:** The goals are to support communities' diversification efforts, to offer a wide range of attractions, to design developed sites to support recreationists in off-site activities, to provide barrier-free access, and to implement recreational strategies.

**Monitoring:** The assessment of goal achievement for the Recreation Program was based the professional judgment of recreation specialists, public comments, and information from Regional, Forest, and District Recreation Managers.

**Results:** Recreation use and demand appears to be experiencing a small, steady growth. Use is concentrated along scenic byways, rivers, lakes, and in wilderness and backcountry areas. Uncrowded and ecologically rich settings are the Forest's unique recreational assets.

The Forest is maintaining its rich, attractive recreation settings, and making small recreation facility improvements that retain valued natural character, increase visitor satisfaction, and contribute to local tourism. This supports local communities' diversification efforts.

This year the Forest worked with stakeholders to provide planning, interpretive signing, and coordination for the Shasta Volcanic, State of Jefferson, and Bigfoot National Forest Scenic Byways. Sixteen modern, accessible toilet facilities were installed this year at 12 sites. The Carter Meadows Group Camp and Trail Creek Campground were modernized with new signs, parking areas, toilets, and camping facilities. Ten miles of backcountry trail were reconstructed on the west side of the forest. Planning, including designs, to upgrade the Taylor Lake Trailhead and access road was completed; safe passenger vehicle access will be provided and barriers inhibiting wilderness use by those with disabilities will be removed (reconstruction work is scheduled for FY 2003). Planning for the Little Horse Peak Research Project Interpretive Station was completed with construction scheduled for FY 2003. All these actions have enhanced the recreational experience, increased visitor satisfaction, and increased referrals to other potential visitors. Information from the 2001 national visitor use survey of the Forest has been applied to various planning efforts, to better represent the recreational preferences of its visitors, and appropriately shift recreation program budgets and priorities to meet those preferences.

The Forest continues to invest money in high demand/high priority developed recreation sites and areas. These areas typically support off-site recreational experiences within scenic byways, rivers, lakes, trails, and the backcountry. Recreation operations and maintenance costs continue

to be monitored for efficiency, so high value services can be provided. Recreation sites within the national cost recovery program continue to generate fee-related funding for onsite improvements.

The Forest continues to increase the availability of its attractions and facilities suitable for non-traditional recreation visitors, such as children, the elderly, and people with mobility impairments, through the projects listed above. The Forest continues to strategically identify, acquire funds, and plan recreation projects that remove barriers to people with mobility and other disabilities per the Forest Accessibility Action Plan. New facility improvements are designed to balance optimal access for people with disabilities with protection of onsite natural setting characteristics.

## ***Wilderness Management***

**Goals:** The goal is to maintain or enhance wilderness values.

**Monitoring:** The assessment is based on the professional judgment of wilderness specialists, public comments, and information from Regional, Forest, and District Recreation Managers.

**Results:** Wilderness use is primarily by recreationists and grazing permittees. Use levels are generally light compared to other wildernesses in the Region. Use continued its slight increase.

Resource effects are primarily due to recreational visitors, grazing use, historic fire suppression, and occasional fire suppression activities. Few trailheads provide information about recreational opportunities and wilderness resource conservation measures. Public complaints about the presence and impacts of cattle grazing on aesthetics and ecosystems are common. The Forest's Wildland Fire Management Strategy provides criteria for determining when to allow wildland fire to burn to achieve resource goals in wilderness, rather than always suppressing it as in the past. The availability of this new tool is expected to help reduce fuel build-ups created as a result of past fire suppression; however fire ignitions in the wilderness this year were too few to fully apply this opportunity.

Campsite repair work occurs annually, including cleanup, restoration, and trash removal from fragile areas. The extent of exposed mineral soil and loss of native vegetation at many campsites indicates that degradation is occurring. Trail improvement work also occurs each year, including surveys, maintenance, and reconstruction. The Forest in partnerships with the Backcountry Horsemen, Sierra Club, and Northwest Youth Corps, completed reconstruction and maintenance on over 30 miles of trails in the Trinity Alps and Russian Wildernesses, as well as on the Pacific Crest, Shelly, Kidder, and Paradise Trails. Due to limited budgets, many trails do not meet the standards for clearing, logging out, tread maintenance, signing, and trail logs. Direction on how to achieve trail/trailhead accessibility standards to serve people with mobility disabilities has been delayed due to federal judicial processes beyond the control of the Forest Service.

Management decisions regarding acceptable limits of key attributes and values, appropriate land use zoning, and resource emphases are often made informally, frequently lacking the support of coordinated plans or professionally established analysis methods. Identification of baseline ecological values for each wilderness would allow strategies to be developed for maintaining those key values.

## ***Wild and Scenic River Management***

**Goals:** The goal is to maintain and enhance the outstandingly remarkable values and free-flowing conditions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers (WSRs).

**Monitoring:** The assessment is based on professional judgment of WSR specialists, public comments, and information from Regional, Forest, and District Recreation Managers.

**Results:** In general WSR values appear to be in very good condition, but some WSR segments have sporadic problems with TES anadromous fisheries health. On the Klamath WSR, commercial whitewater boating is approaching social thresholds in popular reaches, so alternate reaches were made more attractive through improved access facilities at Sluice Box and Rocky Point. Noncommercial whitewater recreation use surveys were initiated, and commercial

whitewater use permits were evaluated to further identify recreational patterns and management opportunities. Tree planting, beach clearing, and litter patrol was performed by recreation staff along several WSR segments. Studies performed as part of the PacifiCorp hydropower relicensing analysis on the Klamath River have generated information on whitewater rafting, angling, and flow preferences, which is useful in maintaining and enhancing WSR values.

WSR considerations are an increasingly prominent element of program planning and project implementation. Forest WSR activity increased slightly again this past year, in part due to the PacifiCorp hydropower relicensing effort on the Klamath River, and due to the upriver water shortage issues. This is also due to the Region's coordination with agencies and forests to improve the consistency of WSR conservation. WSR Act Section 7 and 10 compatibility determinations have been completed for small public and private projects, to maintain WSR values and support other Forest projects.

### ***Specially Designated Area Management***

**Goals:** The goals are to recognize special areas and values, provide information about these areas, develop partnerships for research within Research Natural Areas, and promote interpretive opportunities within Special Interest Areas.

**Monitoring:** Special Interest Areas are monitored through field visits as opportunities arise. The Geologic Research Natural Areas that are caves are monitored as described above in the **Geology** section.

**Results:** Geologic Special Interest Areas and Research Natural Areas have received limited emphasis.

### ***Lands Program Management***

**Goals:** The goal from the Forest Plan and Forest's Land Adjustment Plan is to achieve a land ownership pattern that improves management options, while reducing conflicts and administrative costs. A second program goal is to administer Land Use Authorizations to minimize unauthorized use and facilitate those needs of adjacent landowners that can only be accommodated through the legal use of National Forest System lands.

**Monitoring:** Program accomplishments were examined and compared to the goal. Specific lands transactions were used to indicate the accomplishments and were compared to goals stated in the updated Landownership Adjustment Plan.

**Results:** Land adjustments are somewhat opportunistic in character, in that the Forest must negotiate transactions with willing landowners to be successful. Thus lands are identified either for acquisition or disposal, and then action is taken when such owners cooperate with Forest managers. Over the past five years, the Forest has completed a number of land exchanges and purchases, which have resulted in a more solid, compact ownership pattern of National Forest System lands. Such actions reduce administrative costs (fewer road rights-of-way required, fewer miles of property boundary to maintain). These actions also contribute to more management options with regard to protection of resources, and reduce conflicting uses by other landowners. The program also contributes to Region 5 goals for the Lands program. The Forest completed the purchase of the Shafter Campground parcel, 297 acres adjacent to the Shafter Campground on the Goosenest Ranger District. The Forest is negotiating the purchase of three parcels within Wilderness.

Land Use Authorizations are administered to Forest Service standards in order to ensure permitted and legal use of lands by the landowners adjacent to National Forest System lands, and others who may use those lands for specific purposes. The program meets the goals assigned to it. At the end of FY 2002, the Forest was the subject of an Activity Review in the areas of Lands program management, and was found to have high performing standards, which met with Regional approval.



Overall, budget and personnel in the Lands program have been reduced as the Forest budget has shrunk. Many of the Forest's original goals have been met. Ownership patterns have improved, although further improvement is possible. A high percentage of property boundaries, and an increasing percentage of Wilderness boundaries have been marked to standard and are now in a maintenance mode. Most Land Use Authorizations are adequately administered, with only a few minor trouble spots.

### ***Minerals Management***

**Goals:** The goal is to manage mineral exploration and development of surface resources to maintain environmental quality.

**Monitoring:** Minerals operations for locatable minerals are controlled by the surface use regulations. A mineral administrator periodically visits operations to insure compliance with the approved plans of operations. When unapproved operations are discovered, operators are informed of the need to comply and given a deadline. Citations are issued for failure to comply. Timely reclamation of mining operations is occurring as a result of the program. Leasable minerals and mineral materials are regulated by permit.

**Results:** The Forest is complying with national direction to administer 100% of minerals operations to standard and will continue to do so. The Forest regulates a continuing program of small dredging and mining activities. There is some increase in mineral materials permits. The Forest continues to negotiate with one mineral locator who is attempting to obtain patent for large-scale operations on National Forest System lands at Liberty Mine on the Salmon River District. A number of Abandoned Mine reclamations are in progress. Work on reclamations will continue as funding becomes available. The Forest has been monitoring the testing activities of one geothermal lessee. If the geothermal activity increases, there will be a need to increase oversight of this activity.

### ***Transportation and Facilities Management***

**Goals:** The goals are to provide an economical, safe, and environmentally sensitive transportation system; emphasize maintenance and restoration over new construction; and provide safe and effective administrative sites and facilities.

**Monitoring:** Much of the work in Transportation Management is routine in nature and done strictly within established BMPs. Program activities are currently monitored under forest resource programs, with support and cooperation from Engineering. The Transportation staff works closely with Forest Resource personnel to identify road related projects that will improve watershed health and mitigate potential resource impacts. All facilities are inspected for condition on a recurring basis. The Engineering staff utilizes comprehensive codes and regulations to ensure proper planning, maintenance, construction, and accessibility upgrades are accomplished.

**Results:** The 2002 Road Accomplishment Report shows that 184 miles of road were fully maintained, and 1494 miles were partially maintained. This exceeded the 521 miles/year for maintenance projected in Table 4-1 of the Forest Plan. No new roads were constructed, which is well below the 10 miles/year projected in the Forest Plan. In addition, a total of 12.5 miles of road were decommissioned, and 32 miles of road were stormproofed, outsloped or rocked. Every effort is being made to complete all work on the ground using established BMPs, which are routinely monitored by Engineering Contracting Officer Representations and Inspectors. An ongoing and very successful collaborative effort with the Aquatic Resource Program focuses on combining road, resource, and grant funding to complete road-related key watershed improvements. Failed road sections are being repaired to the maximum extent possible using less fill volume with reinforced or rock fills. When possible, stream crossing fills are being replaced with low water crossings, open bottom arches, or rock fills to minimize the potential for future environmental damage. Culverts are being sized to 100-year flows, when opportunities arise.

During 2002, progress continued towards improving employee and public safety, comfort, convenience, and accessibility of facilities. Highlights include installation of 16 new accessible vault toilets at various locations, installation of three water treatment units to improve drinking water at Petersburg Station, Sara Totten Campground, and Idlewild Campground. A leased nine-person modular barracks was placed at Oak Knoll Work Center. A design contract was awarded for a new four-bay fire facility at Mt. Hebron Work Center. Construction contracts were awarded for a Tree of Heaven Campground water treatment building addition and for replacement of the Herd Peak Lookout access stairway. The required facility condition surveys were completed and entered into a nationwide database. Due to changing requirements and priorities, the Facilities Master Plan was not worked on during FY 2002; completion is targeted for 2003.

### ***Timber Management***

**Goals:** The goals are to implement silvicultural prescriptions to achieve desired conditions, reforest Matrix lands within 5 years, offer the Allowable Sale Quantity, utilize dead and dying trees, implement post-sale treatments, and manage insects and disease.

**Monitoring:** The annual Planned Timber Sale Accomplishment Report has been used for assessing the Allowable Sale Quantity goal. The reforestation and Timber Stand Improvement program goals are assessed each year by comparing accomplishments to targets, particularly for survival and certification of planted stands. The results are documented in the Stand Record System and the yearly Plantation Survival Report.

**Results:** The Forest continued its efforts to meet timber targets assigned by the Region. With the settlement of some court cases and the issuance of the Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines in January 2001, the Forest was able to offer and sell several sales during FY 2002. The Forest met approximately 85% of its assigned target in FY 2002. One sale was delayed due to an appeal and additional Management Indicator Species work needed for sufficiency. The majority of the sales involved commercial thinning and salvage. The Forest still struggles developing Green Tree Retention prescriptions for most of its program. Forest Plan modeling identified Green Tree Retention as the primary prescription for the program. The Forest was funded at a level lower than the Allowable Sale Quantity. The green program was funded at a target level of 26 million board feet. Unit costs continue to increase as procedural requirements become more extensive and complex, survey and manage costs continue to stay high, low volumes per acre are treated, and appeals and litigation become a standard way of doing business. Roadside hazard trees are being removed with timber sales where feasible.

The Forest continues to emphasize timber stand improvement activities. Treatments include a combination of older and younger plantations. Accomplishments are completed using both trust funds and appropriated funding. Integration with the fuels program is continuing with emphasis on treating stands to reduce fuel hazards. The reforestation program remains at a low level, due mostly to the lack of regeneration harvesting. Most of the reforestation efforts are confined to interplantings of understocked plantations and the reforestation of wildfires. Survival rates are still in the acceptable range. Animal damage efforts have concentrated on controlling gopher and deer problems on some of the younger plantations.

### ***Fire Management***

**Goals:** The goals are to reintroduce fire into the environment, reduce unacceptable fuel buildups, use the appropriate minimum impact suppression methods for wildfires, and develop management and protection strategies for intermixed state and private lands.

**Monitoring:** Management Attainment Reports were used in determining if acre targets were achieved. When implementing prescribed fire projects, smoke management plans are

coordinated with the local Air Pollution Control District to assure that smoke management guidelines are met; refer also to **Air Quality** section.

**Results:** The Forest Plan projected output for natural and activity fuel treatment is 27,108 acres per year for the first decade. In FY 2001, the Forest accomplishment was 10,496 acres, but this decreased in FY 2002 to a Management Attainment Report target of 3,555 acres with 4,191 acres actually accomplished. This is less than half of the FY 2001 program. The program was at a high in FY 1999, when over 19,000 acres were accomplished.

The Forest fuels program has declined over the past several years for several reasons. Limited Fuel Program funding doesn't allow as many acres to be treated. Survey and Manage requirements continue to impede the Fuels Program due to the high cost of surveys and constraints on ground disturbing activities where species are found. The National Fire Plan emphasis on treating areas around Communities at Risk has also increased per acre costs. Pre and post-fuel treatment monitoring continues to improve and is an important part of the fuels program.

### **Range Management**

**Goals:** The goals are to provide healthy ecosystems, make forage available on a sustainable basis, not retard or prevent attainment with Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives, and provide forage to support big game objectives with meeting current livestock forage allocations.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring included the assessment of annual utilization and Annual Operating Instruction effectiveness, specific riparian area monitoring, and long-term monitoring of vegetation changes at five-year intervals. Monitoring of randomly selected allotments occurs each year for allotments with an Endangered Species Act determination of "may affect, likely to adversely effect" for coho and steelhead salmon, for Range BMP monitoring, and for Forest Plan S&Gs.

**Results:** Allotment monitoring indicates movement towards the goals of providing forage for livestock and wildlife on a sustainable basis while managing grazing activities to meet Aquatic Conservation Strategy Objectives. The assessment of long-term condition indicates that range condition is improving. Permittees are involved in monitoring their own allotments with good success.

### **Wild Horse Management**

**Goals:** The goal is to manage for one viable wild horse herd. The population goal for the Three Sisters Herd is 10 head, while the goal for the McGavin Peak herd is 0.

**Monitoring:** A census of total numbers, sex, and age class allows annual population estimates to be made. Population numbers are monitored and horses in excess of the population goal are removed.

**Results:** In 1995, the population estimate for McGavin Peak herd was 80 animals and Three Sisters 20. Capture efforts since then have removed 84 animals from the McGavin Peak herd and 27 animals from Three Sisters. Current estimates are 40 head for McGavin Peak and 25 for Three Sisters. The focus of the capture effort is on the McGavin Peak herd.

### **Heritage Resource Program**

**Goals:** The goals are to sustain a progressive Heritage Resource Program, inventory known cultural sites, and to determine the significance of each site.

**Monitoring:** Two types of monitoring occur that are related to Section 106 and Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act. As part of the review process for Section 106, historic properties that are potentially eligible and sites that are on the National Register of Historic



Places are located and protected during project planning. After project completion, random sites are monitored to ensure that the protection was adequate. As part of the evaluation process of properties eligible for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places for Section 110, the condition of properties is monitored and evaluated. This usually requires a single visit to monitor and possibly re-record the condition of the known archaeological sites. Monitoring data is reviewed each year as part of these two processes, including the number and acreage of pre-project surveys, the number of sites interpreted, the number of cultural education classes held, and the number of tribes consulted.

**Results:** Project planning facilitates the location and protection of historic properties. The Forest's Section 110 Monitoring Plan established a higher minimum number of sites to be evaluated annually for determining significance than was identified in the Forest Plan Monitoring Plan. Section 110 monitoring continues, and is based on funding and available time. The Forest also continues to enter new archaeological information into the national database and map sites in the Forest Geographical Information System.

### ***Tribal Government Program***

**Goals:** The goals are to improve relationships with Indian people, develop partnerships with local Native American organizations, and emphasize increased understanding, communication, and partnerships with Indian tribes, organizations, and communities.

**Monitoring:** Monitoring consists of tracking the actions taken to improve relations with tribal groups.

**Results:** Every year the number of contacts with federally recognized and non-federally-recognized tribes increases as the tribes become more politically active. With the development of mutual respect, relationships continue to improve. Agreements are developed and revised as necessary with the federally recognized tribes.

In 2002 the Klamath continued government-to-government consultation efforts with the Yurok, Hoopa Valley, Karuk, and Pit River Tribes. The Forest, the Karuk Tribe, and the Happy Camp Community are involved with efforts to address fire protection within areas of privately owned land. In 2002, consultation and coordination with the following tribes occurred for the continued development of the Medicine Lake Highlands Historic Properties Management Plan: the Klamath Tribes, the Confederated Bands of the Shasta and Upper Klamath River Indians (Butte Valley), and the Pit River Tribe.

Consultation with the Karuk Tribe of California, the Klamath Tribes, Shasta Nation/Shasta Tribe, Inc. (Yreka), the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation, the Pit River Tribe, the Yurok Tribe, Confederated Bands of the Shasta and Upper Klamath River Indians (Butte Valley), and the Forks of the Salmon Indian Council continued this past year for numerous Forest Service projects.

## **Social and Economic Environment**

### ***Social and Economic Environment***

**Goals:** The goal is to develop partnerships with local and regional groups to emphasize environmental education, public awareness, and knowledge about Forest processes. Although not specified in the Forest Plan, the law provides a Civil Rights goal, which is to incorporate non-discrimination and fairness into every program and process within the Forest. This is done through the development of partnerships with local and regional groups to emphasize environmental education, public awareness, and knowledge about Forest processes.

**Monitoring:** The goals were assessed through a review of all other programs. Classroom hours and program dollars have been used as indicators for environmental education. Information is not currently aggregated at the Forest level for employee participation in Conservation Education with external groups. However, various program areas contribute a portion of their budgets toward attainment of this national emphasis item. For Civil Rights, the number of complaints received, number of accomplishments in the Civil Rights Implementation Plan, number of programs represented in Title VI reporting, and number of employees attending training and briefings were reviewed.

**Results:** Efforts in cooperating with other agencies, organizations, tribes, and individuals are ongoing. The Forest cooperates with numerous partners in aquatic and terrestrial restoration projects; in surveying wildlife, fish, and rare plant habitat; in monitoring cave resources; and in maintaining snowmobile facilities. The Forest also provides environmental education programs for students and other groups in a number of resource areas. Extensive coordination and cooperation has occurred with numerous tribes; refer to **Tribal Government Program**. The Forest in cooperation with other groups and agencies has assisted in securing Rural Development grants, in creating job opportunities and in placing workers through the Rural Development and Community Development programs.

Many Forest employees enthusiastically participate in Conservation Education programs in cooperation with the public schools by contributing their time and expertise in indoor and outdoor classroom education. Some resource programs contribute heavily, while others do not. Siskiyou County Public Schools personnel are conducting workshops with agency representatives and specialists to develop curriculum in various resource fields to satisfy their educational requirements. This curriculum needs to be developed to meet Forest Service agency needs for content and resource area emphasis in line with the national program direction.

The trend in Civil Rights over the last 4 to 5 years is towards fewer complaints. Indications are that the increased amount of training and the establishment of the Civil Rights Implementation Team have helped incorporate the Civil Rights message into many Forest programs.

### ***Public Interaction and Involvement***

**Goals:** The goal is to use all opportunities to explain the Forest's role in implementing the Forest Service Mission.

**Monitoring:** Program accomplishments were assessed through interview results and a consideration of the amount of public interaction and feedback.

**Results:** The National Fire Plan with its various emphasis items, in particular working with communities through Fire Safe Councils to reduce fire hazard, has provided the Forest with many opportunities to explain its fire control and fuel reduction programs to members of the public.

External contacts and communications with community leaders continue to improve as shown by the increased visibility of Forest programs in one-to-one interactions with County officials and local community leaders as well as in Forest Service employee participation in community meetings. Increased public involvement in the last three years is indicated by the increase in telephone calls; the interest in fire safe councils; and the interest in applying for Payment to State, Fire Plan, and other grants.

### ***Economic***

**Goals:** The goals are to promote economic stability of local communities, develop partnerships for promoting economic stability, promote non-traditional Forest-based resources, emphasize a diversity of goods and services, highlight scenery and recreational opportunities, and encourage the utilization of wood products.

**Monitoring:** Indicators for contributions by the Forest to the local economy are budget and expenditure levels, types and funding levels of community development grant programs, and projects derived from, as well as payments to, the county through the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-393). Human resource programs contribute to Forest actions to support community development

**Results:** The timber program continues to have the largest budget as well as generating the vast majority of receipts to the Treasury. Emergency expenditures related to fires and floods frequently create large local pulses of additional dollars and jobs. Economic incentive programs for timber sales include Small Business Administration and Set-Aside Salvage sales. Because there are no longer any Small Business Administration mills in Siskiyou County, these benefits go to other counties. The commercial firewood component of timber harvest has remained fairly stable for the last thirteen years. The chip component of harvest is highly variable, depending on markets, but shows an increasing trend. Most market products and resource-related jobs associated with local customs and cultures (mining, logging, grazing) continue below that modeled for a fully funded Forest Plan as indicated by the decline in Forest receipts.

Job training, especially job retraining, is important in helping the local workforce adjust to changes in resource products, markets, and skills. Since the late 1970s, the Forest has participated in six Federally Sponsored Programs that are involved with job training, work experience, and environmental education for participants from 15 years of age to senior citizens. The Student Conservation Association, Northwest Youth Corps, and Americorps are new programs added in the last five years.

Historically Payments to States, which compensate Counties for federal lands, have fluctuated based upon timber and other forest receipts. Recent payments were based upon a formula established by Congress that resulted in a predictable, but declining, amount each year. The Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000 has established a stable payment level to Siskiyou County of approximately \$9 million per year for the next six years. This is the highest payment to any county in the State of California. Eighty-five percent of the current payments are dedicated to schools and roads with the remaining 15% benefiting National Forest System lands and related County projects based on Resource Advisory Committee recommendations.

Since 1992, Community Development programs have contributed significantly to economic stability and growth in Siskiyou County. During FY 2002, the Rural Community Assistance and National Fire Plan Grant programs were significantly impacted by the withdrawal of grant funds to cover emergency fire fighting expenses. Five grants, totaling \$140,611, were approved and are expected to be funded in FY 2003. Two Participating Agreements were entered into totaling \$92,180 in expenditures, \$6,200 from the Forest and \$85,980 from partners. Two Challenge Cost Share Agreements were initiated with \$54,229 expended, \$27,990 from the Forest and \$26,239 from partners.

Partnerships and grants developed as part of the Payments to States Title II (RAC) program significantly add to the community development activities of the Forest. Five grants totaling \$91,915 (\$60,555 Forest, \$31,360 partners), four Participating Agreements totaling \$94,504 (\$86,134 Forest, \$8,370 partners), and two Challenge Cost Share Agreements totaling \$21,432 (\$7,552 Forest, \$13,880 partners) were entered into through the RAC program. Eighteen additional RAC projects were recommended and will be implemented in FY 2003. A total of \$8,971,533 was received by Siskiyou County under Public Law 106-393. Of this, \$336,432 was directed to RAC (Title II) and \$1,009,297 was directed to county projects through Title III. The funding targeted for FY 2003 for RAC (Title II) projects will double to approximately \$675,000.

Volunteers contributed 15,126 hours to Forest programs and projects with an equivalent appraised value of \$149,942. Most volunteer activities were directed towards recreation and wildlife projects.

Hosted programs on the Forest such as the Siskiyou Training and Employment Program, California Department of Corrections, and California Conservation Corps supported County human resources development programs. A total of \$187,663 was devoted to hosted programs resulting in 18,733 hours of project work. The Forest also funded 19 Senior Community Service Employment Program positions (\$154,850) resulting in 19,760 hours of labor in a variety of settings on and off the Forest.

### *Potential Forest Plan Amendments*

The Mount Ashland Ski Area Expansion Draft Environmental Impact Statement, issued in July 2003, proposes a non-significant Forest Plan amendment to account for the programmatic 1991 Ski Area Master Plan decision that expanded the Ski Area Special Use Permit boundary. The proposed amendment would change approximately 25 acres of Matrix land (Partial Retention Visual Quality Objective Management Area) to Administratively Withdrawn.

Funding was not available in FY 2001 or FY 2002 for the potential amendments to the Forest Plan identified in five-year monitoring review. These amendments are generally wording changes to goal statements or S&Gs needed to clarify the intent, or new goal statements and S&Gs.

The Forest review of Management Indicator Species identified a need to revise the project level lists. Some species are not easily monitored and the presence of others is not clearly linked to the habitat conditions they are intended to represent.

### *Forest Plan Addenda and Errata*

There is an erratum in the Orr Lake Management Unit, under Description in the fifth paragraph. The portion of the Orr Lake Management Unit that is within the range of the Northern spotted owl is within the Gooseneck Adaptive Management Area as well as being in the underlying Management Areas. This correction is on page 4-139 of the version of the Forest Plan found on the Klamath National Forest Web site, which includes all amendments and errata as of November 21, 2001.

There is an erratum in Table 4-12 of the Forest Plan on page 4-67 (Web version). The asterisks in that table indicate that Establishment Reports were prepared for five Research Natural Areas. No Establishment Reports have been completed to date, so the asterisks and footnote should be removed. Draft Establishment Reports were prepared for Antelope Creek Lakes, Bridge Creek, and Sugar Creek in the late 1980s, but never finalized. There are plans to begin work on seven of the Establishment Reports in FY 2003.

### *Public Participation Plan*

A notice of the FY 2002 Monitoring and Evaluation Report will be mailed to those on the Forest Plan mailing list. Copies will also be provided to the Klamath Provincial Advisory Committee and to anyone who requests them. The report will be posted on the Forest's Web Page.

### *Supporting Documentation*

The supporting information for this report is on file in the various resource departments in the Supervisor's Office and at ranger district offices.

### ***Physical Environment***

de la Fuente, J. and P. Haessig. 1998. LMP Monitoring: Geology

de la Fuente, J. and P. Haessig. 1999. LMP Monitoring: Geology

de la Fuente, J. P. Haessig and E. Rose. 2000. 1999 LMP Monitoring: Geology

de la Fuente, J. , P. Haessig and E. Rose. 2001. 2001 LMP Monitoring: Geology

de la Fuente, J. , P. Haessig and E. Rose. 2002. 2002 LMP Monitoring: Geology (report in progress)

Natural Resources Staff. 2003. Best Management Practices Monitoring Report for Fiscal Year 2002.

Fork Fire BAER Report

Stanza Fire BAER Report

### ***Resources Management Programs***

Forest Land Surveyor Record of marked and maintained boundaries, Klamath National Forest.

Special Use Permits and related inspection reports, Klamath National Forest.

Siskiyou County Assessor. Lands Transaction Recordings.

Mineral Plans of Operations and mineral leases, Klamath National Forest.

FY 2002 Roads Accomplishment Report, Klamath National Forest.

Road Contracts, Klamath National Forest.

Heritage Program Annual Reports from 1996 to present, Klamath National Forest.

### ***Social Economic Environment***

Title VI Accomplishment Report, Klamath National Forest.

Civil Rights Implementation Plan, Klamath National Forest.

Grants and Agreements Log, Klamath National Forest.

Senior, Youth & Volunteer Programs Accomplishment Report.